only three undulating links, each of the undulating links having bends connected by straight portions;

aligning the straight portions of the undulating links perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the stent and parallel to a circumferential direction of expansion;

expanding the cylindrical rings in the circumferential direction of expansion so that the rings expand radially outwardly while the bends in the undulating links remain unexpanded thereby preventing the stent from foreshortening during expansion;

after expanding the cylindrical rings, the bends of the links remain wholly nested within valleys of the cylindrical rings; and

positioning the links so that three undulating links connecting a first set of adjacent rings are circumferentially offset 60° from three undulating links connecting a second set of adjacent rings.

2. The method of claim **1**, wherein after stent expansion, the bends of the undulating links remain unexpanded in order to provide flexibility and good vessel wall coverage.

3. The method of claim **1**, wherein after expansion of the stent, an overall length of the stent is the same in an unexpanded configuration and an expanded configuration.

4. The method of claim **1**, wherein the undulating links being perpendicular to the stent longitudinal axis creates a hinge to provide longitudinal flexibility to the stent.

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